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ABSTRACT

In spring 1983, a joint research project was conducted by representatives of all public school districts and the community college in Johnson County to determine the career and educational interests of the county's high school students. The Career and Educational Interest Survey was administered to 8,127 tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students in all of Johnson County's high schools. Study findings, based on a sample of 68% of the county's 12,000 high school students, revealed: (1) 57.4% of the students viewed the major benefit of attending high school as to prepare for college, and 31.7% as a general education to prepare for life; (2) students showed greatest interest in data processing/computer programming, auto mechanics, electronics, and fashion merchandising programs; (3) nearly 80% of the responding students had future plans that included some type of education--57% of these intended to attend a four-year college or university and 12% a two-year college; (4) 32.5% of all responding students indicated an interest in business occupations, 21.8% were interested in engineering/technical fields, and 16.5% in social or human services; and (5) the most important college characteristics were seen to be high quality teaching, and a wide range of academic courses. The survey instrument is appended. (HB)

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Career and Educational Interests of Johnson County High School Students Spring 1983

A joint research project of:

Blue Valley Unified School District #229
Spring Hill Unified School District #230
Gardner Edgerton Unified School District #231
DeSoto Unified School District #232
Olathe Unified School District #233
Shawnee Mission Unified School District #512
Johnson County Community College

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July 1983
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JC 840 013

CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SPRING, 1983

During the spring of 1983, a committee representing all public school districts and the community college in Johnson County agreed to sponsor a joint research project to determine the career and educational interests of the county's high school students. This research was conceived of as one part of a comprehensive educational needs assessment to be conducted for the entire county.

The committee designed a plan to survey students in all public high schools in the county and an instrument to be used for this purpose. The Office of Institutional Research at Johnson County Community College was charged with overall responsibility for implementing the research design in conjunction with each of the public school districts.

The "Career and Educational Interest Survey" was administered to 8,127 tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade students in each of Johnson County's public high schools in class during the first two weeks of March. This sample represented approximately 68 percent of the nearly 12,000 high school students officially registered in high schools in the county. It was the intention of the research design to survey the total population of Johnson County high school students. The sample that was actually surveyed is the result of absenteeism or non-enrollment in the specific classes in which the survey was administered, though these classes were selected specifically to attempt to include as much of the total population of students as possible.

Responses to the survey were coded and entered on computer tape by the Shawnee Mission school district and analyzed by JCCC's Office of Institutional Research. The following tables and brief narrative remarks summarize the major results of the survey.

If you have any questions regarding the survey or its results, please call or write:

Office of Institutional Research
Johnson County Community College
12345 College Boulevard
Overland Park, Kansas 66210
913-888-8500, ext. 441

Profile of Responding Students

* Respondents to the survey seemed to be representative of Johnson County high school students in terms of sex, grade level and high school of attendance.

* Fully 71.8 percent of the responding students attended Shawnee Mission high schools. Thus, the overall results of the survey reflect this representation.

Table 1 details these characteristics of the respondents to the survey.

TABLE 1

PROFILE OF RESPONDING
JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

	Number of Responding Students	Percent of Total Responses
Sex:		
Male	4,157	51.2%
Female	3,937	48.4
Unknown	33	0.4
Total	8,127	100.0%
Grade:		
Ninth	11	0.1%
Tenth	2,917	35.9
Eleventh	2,730	33.6
Twelfth	2,459	30.3
High School:		
Shawnee Mission District (Subtotal)	5,838	71.8%
East	782	9.6
West	1,377	16.9
North	986	12.1
South	1,534	18.9
Northwest	1,159	14.3
Olathe District (Subtotal)	1,157	14.2%
North	646	7.9
South	511	6.3
Blue Valley	451	5.6%
DeSoto	261	3.2%
Gardner Edgerton	222	2.7%
Spring Hill	197	2.4%

High School Vocational and Educational Interests

* The majority of all responding students indicated that the most important benefit of attending high school is preparation for college.

* The greatest percentage of students from Shawnee Mission South, Shawnee Mission East and Blue Valley high schools, over two-thirds of all respondents, indicated that preparation for college was the most important benefit of high school attendance.

* Just over one-third of the students from Gardner Edgerton, Spring Hill and DeSoto high schools indicated college preparation as the most important benefit.

* While only 5.6 percent of all respondents indicated that preparation for a "specific job" was the most important benefit of attending high school, over 30 percent of all responding students, or more than 2,400 high school students, indicated an interest in enrolling in a high school vocational or technical program.

* Another 30 percent were not sure of their interests in vocational or technical programs, leaving nearly 60 percent of all respondents, or over 4,700 students, as potential enrollees in such programs. Only 41.4 percent responded that they were not interested in vocational or technical programs.

* The high schools with the greatest percentage of responding students indicating interest in enrolling in vocational/technical programs were, in order, Gardner Edgerton, Shawnee Mission Northwest, Shawnee Mission North, Shawnee Mission West and Olathe North.

* Nearly as many students were interested in enrolling in off-campus vocational/technical programs as were interested in such programs overall. An off-campus location did not appear to deter students from interest in vocational/technical programs.

* Over 1,800 students indicated that they would use free transportation provided by the school district to attend an off-campus program. This represents about 80 percent of the number of students who indicated that they would be interested in enrolling in an off-campus vocational/technical program, but only about half of those indicating transportation plans to attend off-campus programs.

* Students' certainty concerning their interests in enrolling in a vocational/technical program in high school increased with grade level. As many 12th graders indicated interest in vocational/technical programs as 10th graders, but significantly more 12th graders then 10th graders did not have an interest in these programs.

* Similar percentages of male and female high school students indicated interest in vocational/technical programs and related transportation arrangements.

Tables 2-5 on the following pages detail the high school vocational and educational interests of Johnson County 10th, 11th and 12th graders.

TABLE 2

HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS
OF JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

	Number of Responding Students	Percent of Total Responses
Most Important Benefit of Attending High School:		
Prepare for college	4,651	57.4%
Prepare for specific job	453	5.6
General education to prepare for life	2,571	31.7
Meet friends and participate in activities	132	1.6
No special reason or benefit; attendance required	294	3.6
Interest in High School Vocational/ Technical Program		
Yes	2,442	30.1%
No	3,355	41.4
Not sure	2,315	28.5
Interest in Off-Campus Vocational/ Technical Program		
Yes	2,249	27.8%
No	3,432	42.4
Not sure	2,420	29.9
Would Use Free Transportation to Vocational/Technical Program		
Yes	1,819	22.5%
No, would provide own transportation	1,978	24.5
No, would ride with friends	350	4.3
No, not interested in off-campus program	2,454	30.4
Not sure	1,467	18.2

TABLE 3

HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS
OF JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
BY SCHOOL AND DISTRICT

	High School					
High School Interests	SM East	SM West	SM North	SM South	SM Northwest	SM Total
Most Important Benefit of Attending High School:						
Prepare for college	65.7%	57.3%	48.3%	69.3%	57.8%	60.2%
Prepare for specific job	3.9	6.6	6.7	2.9	5.3	5.0
General education to prepare for life	26.8	31.8	38.2	22.8	32.4	30.0
Meet friends and participate in activities	1.2	1.5	2.5	1.4	1.5	1.6
No special reason or benefit; attendance required	2.4	2.8	4.3	3.5	3.1	3.2
Interest in High School Vocational/ Technical Program						
Yes	24.9%	34.4%	38.3%	19.0%	40.2%	30.9%
No	46.3	34.7	32.5	53.4	31.3	40.1
Not sure	28.8	31.0	29.2	27.6	28.4	29.0
Interest in Off-Campus Vocational/ Technical Program						
Yes	24.2%	32.3%	33.5%	18.3%	34.1%	28.1%
No	46.1	36.6	33.2	52.0	34.8	41.0
Not sure	29.7	31.1	33.4	29.7	31.1	30.9
Would Use Free Transportation to Vocational/Technical Program						
Yes	19.7%	28.9%	26.8%	17.3%	25.3%	23.6%
No, would provide own transportation	23.5	24.3	26.9	19.9	27.7	24.2
No, would ride with friends	4.9	2.8	3.6	5.7	4.5	4.3
No, not interested in off-campus program	34.3	25.9	23.6	39.1	23.5	29.6
Not sure	17.5	18.0	19.1	17.9	18.8	18.3

TABLE 3

HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS
OF JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
BY SCHOOL AND DISTRICT

High School Interests	High School					
	Blue Valley	DeSoto	Spring Hill	Olathe South	Olathe North	Gardner Edgerton
Most Important Benefit of Attending High School						
Prepare for college	64.8%	38.6%	36.2%	59.8%	48.1%	32.1%
Prepare for specific job	2.7	8.1	7.1	6.1	9.6	9.0
General education to prepare for life	23.8	49.0	51.0	29.2	36.4	49.3
Meet friends and participate in activities	2.9	1.5	0.5	1.8	1.1	2.3
No special reason or benefit; attendance required	5.8	2.7	4.6	3.2	4.8	7.2
Interest in High School Vocational/ Technical Program						
Yes	19.1%	26.8%	30.1%	22.7%	32.9%	43.9%
No	54.9	41.8	37.8	53.7	41.4	21.3
Not sure	26.0	31.4	32.1	23.5	25.7	34.8
Interest in Off-Campus Vocational/ Technical Program						
Yes	18.9%	20.4%	30.1%	22.2%	31.7%	45.0%
No	55.7	46.5	38.3	53.2	43.3	23.0
Not sure	25.4	33.1	31.6	24.6	25.0	32.0
Would Use Free Transportation to Vocational/Technical Program						
Yes	14.0%	29.3%	19.7%	13.9%	23.0%	25.7%
No, would provide own transportation	22.0	14.3	27.5	25.0	30.6	28.8
No, would ride with friends	6.9	3.1	3.6	3.4	3.6	6.3
No, not interested in off-campus program	38.7	32.8	25.9	40.0	30.1	14.0
Not sure	18.2	20.5	23.3	17.8	12.7	25.2

TABLE 4

HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS
OF JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS BY GRADE

High School Interests	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Most Important Benefit of Attending High School			
Prepare for college	56.7%	57.7%	58.1%
Prepare for specific job	7.1	6.1	3.2
General education to prepare for life	31.3	31.1	33.0
Meet friends and participate in activities	1.4	1.7	1.8
No special reason or benefit; attendance required	3.5	3.4	3.8
Interest in High School Vocational/ Technical Programs			
Yes	29.7%	29.7%	30.9%
No	36.8	41.6	46.5
Not sure	33.5	28.7	22.6
Interest in Off-Campus Vocational/ Technical Program			
Yes	26.8%	27.6%	29.1%
No	38.6	41.9	47.3
Not sure	34.6	30.5	23.7
Would Use Free Transportation to Vocational/Technical Program			
Yes	23.4%	22.5%	21.5%
No, would provide own transportation	21.8	24.9	27.3
No, would ride with friends	4.8	4.1	4.1
No, not interested in off-campus program	28.1	30.0	33.6
Not sure	21.9	18.4	13.5

TABLE 5

HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS
OF JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS BY SEX

High School Interests	Sex	
	Male	Female
Most Important Benefit of Attending High School		
Prepare for college	58.0%	57.0%
Prepare for specific job	6.2	4.9
General education to prepare for life	28.9	34.6
Meet friends and participate in activities	2.1	1.1
No special reason or benefit; attendance required	4.8	2.4
Interest in High School Vocational/ Technical Program		
Yes	30.9%	29.2%
No	41.1	41.6
Not sure	27.9	29.2
Interest in Off-Campus Vocational/ Technical Program		
Yes	29.1%	26.2%
No	42.5	42.2
Not sure	28.3	31.6
Would Use Free Transportation to Vocational/Technical Program		
Yes	22.3%	22.7%
No, provide own transportation	25.8	23.1
No, ride with friends	3.8	5.0
No, not interested in program	30.0	30.9
Not sure	18.2	18.1

Student Interest in Specific High School Vocational Technical Programs

* Overall, the greatest number of students indicated interest in enrolling in programs in data processing/computer programming, auto mechanics, electronics, fashion merchandising, childcare aide, office education, cosmetology and exploring medical or health-related careers.

* Twenty percent of all responding students, and over one-quarter of all students indicating an interest in vocational technical programs, were interested in data processing/computer programming training. However, over 90 percent of those interested in this program intend to continue their educations after high school at a college, university or technical school.

* For those students planning to begin full-time jobs immediately after finishing high school, programs in auto and diesel mechanics, auto body repair, childcare aide, carpentry and construction, office education, welding and cosmetology received greatest interest.

* Interest in programs such as cosmetology, office education, auto mechanics, fashion merchandising and childcare aide was considerably less among 12th grade students than among 10th graders. Otherwise, interest in specific high school vocational technical programs was relatively stable at all high school grade levels.

* There were differences in students' interest in specific programs among the various high schools and districts in the county:

  -- Students in Shawnee Mission high schools indicated more interest in data processing/computer programming than students in other districts.

  -- Students in Gardner Edgerton and Spring Hill high schools showed greater interest in auto and diesel mechanics and auto body repair than other students.

  -- Students in Shawnee Mission North and Shawnee Mission Northwest indicated somewhat greater interest in an electronics program.

  -- Gardner Edgerton high school students indicated more interest in office education, graphic arts and printing, welding and farm management than students from any other high school.

* There appears to be sufficient numbers of interested students to support vocational/technical programs in a variety of locations throughout the county.

* Male and female high school students indicated very traditional preferences for vocational/technical programs. Males indicate interest in skilled trades and technical programs; females indicated interest in office education, cosmetology and fashion-related occupations, and nursing and health and human services-related occupations. Programs involving computers and business services were selected equally often by either sex.

Tables 6-11 on the following pages detail students' interest in specific high school vocational technical programs.

TABLE 6

STUDENT INTEREST IN SPECIFIC HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAMS AMONG ALL RESPONDING STUDENTS

	Number of Responses	Percent of Total Responses
Data processing/ computer programming	1,467	20.0%
Auto mechanics	887	12.1
Auto body repair	574	7.8
Diesel mechanics	177	2.4
Aircraft mechanics and maintenance	343	4.7
Electronics	828	11.3
Fashion merchandising	817	11.2
Cosmetology	669	9.1
Childcare aide	795	10.9
Social services aide	534	7.3
Teacher's aide	372	5.1
Geriatric aide	54	0.7
Office education	783	10.7
Word processing	353	4.8
Exploring medical/ health related careers	646	8.8
Nursing aide	453	6.2
Dental assisting	292	4.0
Graphic arts and printing	468	6.4
Technical drafting	404	5.5
Carpentry and construction	434	5.9
Cabinetmaking	109	1.5
Electrical	349	4.8
Heating & air conditioning	70	1.0
Plumbing	72	1.0
Marketing/distributive education	416	5.7
Farm management	245	3.3
Horticulture	126	1.7
Agribusiness supplies & services	117	1.6
Food Management	233	3.2
Welding	198	2.7
Machine shop & maintenance	130	1.8
Machine tool & die	43	0.6
Do not plan to enroll	2,357	32.2
Did not respond	94	1.2

TABLE 7

STUDENT INTEREST IN SPECIFIC HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAMS
BY PLANS AFTER FINISHING HIGH SCHOOL

	Plans After High School				
	Work full time	Attend Tech. Spec. school	College full-time	Work & attend coll. part-time	Other
Data processing/ computer programming	8.3%	22.4%	20.6%	24.2%	17.8%
Auto mechanics	28.1	27.4	6.5	11.7	21.9
Auto body repair	19.6	20.3	3.8	8.4	13.9
Diesel mechanics	10.6	6.6	0.6	2.7	4.5
Aircraft mechanics and maintenance	4.2	9.2	3.2	4.6	8.8
Electronics	7.3	21.2	9.9	10.9	14.6
Fashion merchandising	8.6	9.7	10.5	16.2	11.3
Cosmetology	10.5	17.0	5.9	15.2	12.9
Childcare aide	15.9	6.8	8.5	18.4	13.1
Social services aide	3.9	2.8	6.7	12.1	8.4
Teacher's aide	6.8	0.9	4.5	6.8	6.8
Geriatric aide	0.2	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.2
Office education	13.4	10.4	7.9	22.2	11.0
Word processing	4.4	5.7	3.9	10.3	3.9
Exploring medical/ health related careers	2.7	5.0	10.2	10.0	6.3
Nursing aide	5.1	4.2	5.8	8.6	6.7
Dental assisting	3.9	4.7	3.7	5.7	3.4
Graphic arts and printing	5.9	6.4	5.8	8.6	6.9
Technical drafting	2.4	8.7	6.0	4.0	4.6
Carpentry and construction	14.9	10.1	3.4	6.6	10.2
Cabinetmaking	4.6	3.1	0.9	1.1	2.4
Electrical	6.6	10.1	3.6	4.4	6.7
Heating & air conditioning	2.7	3.8	0.3	1.8	1.1
Plumbing	2.2	2.4	0.6	0.5	2.0
Marketing/distributive education	3.2	3.3	6.3	6.9	4.5
Farm management	8.6	4.2	2.3	2.9	5.5
Horticulture	2.2	2.4	1.3	2.5	2.4
Agribusiness supplies & services	1.2	1.4	1.5	2.0	1.8
Food Management	7.1	2.4	2.2	5.3	4.2
Welding	10.8	7.1	0.9	3.1	4.5
Machine shop & maintenance	5.9	6.1	0.8	1.2	2.9
Machine tool & die	2.0	1.9	0.2	0.3	1.2
Do not plan to enroll	12.7	5.9	44.5	14.4	17.0
	(n=409)	(n=424)	(n= 4,345)	(n=933)	(n= 1,191)

TABLE 8

STUDENT INTEREST IN SPECIFIC HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAMS BY GRADE

	Current Grade in School		
	10th	11th	12th
Data processing/ computer programming	21.3%	20.0%	18.5%
Auto mechanics	13.5	11.8	10.7
Auto body repair	8.4	7.5	7.4
Diesel mechanics	2.4	2.2	2.6
Aircraft mechanics and maintenance	4.8	4.3	4.9
Electronics	11.0	12.0	11.0
Fashion merchandising	12.2	11.4	9.7
Cosmetology	11.3	8.8	7.0
Childcare aide	12.5	10.4	9.4
Social services aide	7.5	7.2	7.2
Teacher's aide	5.1	4.5	5.6
Geriatric aide	0.7	0.5	1.1
Office education	12.1	10.7	9.0
Word processing	4.5	4.5	5.6
Exploring medical/ health related careers	9.0	9.1	8.2
Nursing aide	6.3	6.0	6.2
Dental assisting	4.0	3.6	4.3
Graphic arts and printing	6.5	6.1	6.6
Technical drafting	5.8	5.3	5.4
Carpentry and construction	5.7	6.4	5.7
Cabinetmaking	1.5	1.2	1.8
Electrical	4.0	5.0	5.3
Heating & air conditioning	0.7	1.0	1.2
Plumbing	1.0	1.0	0.9
Marketing/distributive education	5.9	5.2	6.0
Farm management	3.4	3.0	3.7
Horticulture	1.0	2.1	2.1
Agribusiness supplies & services	1.2	1.7	2.0
Food Management	3.1	3.3	3.2
Welding	2.8	2.9	2.4
Machine shop & maintenance	1.5	2.0	1.8
Machine tool & die	0.5	0.5	0.9
Do not plan to enroll	28.4	32.8	35.9
	(n=2,654)	(n=2,440)	(n=2,212)

TABLE 9

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDING STUDENTS INTERESTED IN SPECIFIC HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAMS BY SCHOOL AND DISTRICT

	High School					
	SM East	SM West	SM North	SM South	SM N'west	SM Total
Data processing/ computer programming	19.7%	19.9%	23.3%	21.5%	25.5%	22.0%
Auto mechanics	9.3	13.4	13.5	9.2	13.6	11.9
Auto body repair	5.5	8.0	8.4	6.1	9.7	7.6
Diesel mechanics	1.6	1.6	2.9	1.5	2.5	2.0
Aircraft mechanics and maintenance	5.7	5.2	5.4	4.5	5.8	5.3
Electronics	11.2	12.1	15.8	10.8	14.4	12.8
Fashion merchandising	9.9	11.4	11.8	11.6	12.9	11.6
Cosmetology	5.4	9.3	10.5	6.0	11.4	8.6
Childcare aide	12.5	12.3	10.4	9.6	10.4	10.9
Social services aide	7.3	10.4	8.3	4.4	9.1	7.8
Teacher's aide	6.4	5.1	5.5	3.8	4.2	4.8
Geriatric aide	0.4	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.2	0.7
Office education	9.8	11.2	12.8	9.5	10.2	10.6
Word processing	3.1	4.3	4.8	5.1	5.7	4.7
Exploring medical/ health related careers	10.2	11.6	10.2	7.1	10.0	9.7
Nursing aide	6.7	6.7	6.2	5.5	5.8	6.1
Dental assisting	3.4	5.2	4.1	3.4	4.2	4.1
Graphic arts and printing	6.9	7.7	6.6	4.9	6.5	6.5
Technical drafting	6.3	5.9	6.4	5.7	7.1	6.2
Carpentry and construction	3.6	6.5	8.0	3.7	7.4	5.9
Cabinetmaking	1.0	1.8	2.1	0.9	1.6	1.5
Electrical	4.4	6.0	7.0	4.1	5.0	5.3
Heating & air conditioning	0.6	1.3	2.1	0.2	0.9	1.0
Plumbing	0.7	0.9	1.4	0.9	0.8	0.9
Marketing/distributive education	6.6	8.2	4.2	6.3	7.3	6.7
Farm management	2.5	3.0	3.6	1.9	3.3	2.8
Horticulture	2.5	1.6	1.6	0.7	2.2	1.6
Agribusiness supplies & services	1.5	1.5	0.3	1.3	1.7	1.3
Food Management	4.4	3.5	4.2	3.0	3.1	3.5
Welding	1.0	1.7	3.4	1.3	1.9	1.8
Machine shop & maintenance	1.6	2.1	2.1	0.7	2.6	1.8
Machine tool & die	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	1.1	0.6
Do not plan to enroll	35.7	26.2	23.3	40.0	25.2	30.2
	(n=686)	(n=1,281)	(n=920)	(n=1,341)	(n=1,078)	(n=5,306)

TABLE 9

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDING STUDENTS INTERESTED IN SPECIFIC HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL?TECHNICAL PROGRAMS BY SCHOOL AND DISTRICT

	High School					
	Blue Valley	DeSoto	Spring Hill	Olathe South	Olathe North	Gardner Edgerton
Data processing/ computer programming	13.1%	15.9%	17.6%	12.8%	16.3%	15.0%
Auto mechanics	7.6	15.5	20.6	8.4	12.8	21.7
Auto body repair	4.0	10.3	14.1	5.7	8.8	14.0
Diesel mechanics	1.0	5.2	7.1	1.4	4.3	5.8
Aircraft mechanics and maintenance	2.5	3.0	4.7	2.5	2.3	7.2
Electronics	8.3	6.9	11.8	7.3	5.2	9.7
Fashion merchandising	12.9	7.3	8.8	9.4	9.7	9.7
Cosmetology	9.6	12.5	12.5	9.6	11.6	12.1
Childcare aide	10.4	9.9	12.4	10.0	10.9	10.6
Social services aide	5.8	4.3	4.7	6.6	6.4	5.3
Teacher's aide	5.8	4.7	2.9	5.7	6.8	6.3
Geriatric aide	0.5	1.7	0.0	0.5	1.0	1.0
Office education	7.6	5.6	12.9	11.0	12.5	15.9
Word processing	3.5	5.6	7.1	4.3	6.2	4.8
Exploring medical/ health related careers	7.1	9.1	10.0	4.8	5.2	6.8
Nursing aide	5.8	8.2	8.2	5.7	6.1	5.8
Dental assisting	2.8	2.2	7.6	3.4	4.3	2.4
Graphic arts and printing	6.1	7.8	7.8	5.3	3.6	14.5
Technical drafting	4.0	4.3	4.3	4.1	2.4	5.8
Carpentry and construction	1.8	6.0	7.6	5.0	8.1	9.2
Cabinetmaking	0.5	1.3	1.3	0.9	1.7	4.3
Electrical	3.3	5.2	5.2	3.4	2.9	2.4
Heating & air conditioning	0.3	2.6	2.6	0.2	1.2	0.0
Plumbing	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.6	0.5
Marketing/distributive education	2.5	3.0	1.2	3.4	2.8	6.3
Farm management	2.8	6.0	7.6	3.2	4.5	8.2
Horticulture	0.8	1.3	1.2	1.8	3.6	1.9
Agribusiness supplies & services	2.5	3.4	2.9	0.9	2.4	3.9
Food Management	2.0	2.6	0.6	1.8	3.3	1.9
Welding	2.8	5.2	5.2	2.7	5.4	11.6
Machine shop & maintenance	1.5	2.2	0.0	0.5	2.8	2.9
Machine tool & die	0.3	0.9	0.0	0.5	0.9	1.4
Do not plan to enroll	47.7	34.1	25.9	45.7	36.0	16.4
	(n=396)	(n=232)	(n=170)	(n=438)	(n=577)	(n=207)

TABLE 10

NUMBER OF STUDENTS INTERESTED IN SPECIFIC HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

	High School					
	SM East	SM West	SM North	SM South	SM Northwest	SM Total
Data processing/ computer programming	135	255	214	288	275	1,167
Auto mechanics	64	172	124	123	147	630
Auto body repair	38	103	77	82	105	405
Diesel mechanics	11	21	27	20	27	106
Aircraft mechanics and maintenance	39	7	0	60	63	279
Electronics	77	155	145	145	155	677
Fashion merchandising	68	146	109	155	139	617
Cosmetology	37	119	97	81	123	457
Childcare aide	86	157	96	129	112	580
Social services aide	50	133	76	59	98	416
Teacher's aide	44	65	51	51	45	256
Geriatric aide	3	14	12	7	2	38
Office education	67	143	118	127	110	565
Word processing	21	55	44	68	61	249
Exploring medical/ health related careers	70	148	94	95	108	515
Nursing aide	46	86	57	74	62	325
Dental assisting	23	67	38	45	45	218
Graphic arts and printing	47	99	61	66	70	343
Technical drafting	43	75	59	76	77	330
Carpentry and construction	25	83	74	50	80	312
Cabinetmaking	7	23	19	12	17	78
Electrical	30	77	64	55	54	280
Heating & air conditioning	4	17	19	3	10	53
Plumbing	5	11	13	12	9	50
Marketing/distributive education	45	105	39	85	79	353
Farm management	17	38	33	26	36	150
Horticulture	17	20	15	9	24	85
Agribusiness supplies & services	10	19	3	18	18	68
Food Management	30	45	39	40	33	187
Welding	7	22	31	17	20	97
Machine shop & maintenance	11	27	19	10	28	95
Machine tool & die	3	5	5	5	12	30
Do not plan to enroll	245	335	214	537	272	1,603

TABLE 10

NUMBER OF STUDENTS INTERESTED IN SPECIFIC HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

	High School					
	Blue Valley	DeSoto	Spring Hill	Olathe South	Olathe North	Gardner Edgerton
Data processing/ computer programming	52	37	30	56	94	31
Auto mechanics	30	36	35	37	74	45
Auto body repair	16	24	24	25	51	29
Diesel mechanics	4	12	12	6	25	12
Aircraft mechanics and maintenance	10	7	8	11	13	15
Electronics	33	16	20	32	30	20
Fashion merchandising	51	17	15	41	56	20
Cosmetology	38	29	11	42	67	25
Childcare aide	41	23	21	44	63	22
Social services aide	23	10	8	29	37	11
Teacher's aide	23	11	5	25	39	13
Geriatric aide	2	4	0	2	6	2
Office education	30	13	22	48	72	33
Word processing	14	13	12	19	36	10
Exploring medical/ health related careers	28	21	17	21	30	14
Nursing aide	23	19	14	25	35	12
Dental assisting	11	5	13	15	25	5
Graphic arts and printing	24	18	9	23	21	30
Technical drafting	16	10	4	18	14	12
Carpentry and construction	7	14	13	22	47	19
Cabinetmaking	2	3	3	4	10	9
Electrical	13	12	7	15	17	5
Heating & air conditioning	1	6	2	1	7	0
Plumbing	4	0	3	5	9	1
Marketing/distributive education	10	7	2	15	16	13
Farm management	11	14	13	14	26	17
Horticulture	3	3	2	8	21	4
Agribusiness supplies & services	10	8	5	4	14	8
Food Management	8	6	1	8	19	4
Welding	11	12	11	12	31	24
Machine shop & maintenance	6	5	0	2	16	6
Machine tool & die	1	2	0	2	5	3
Do not plan to enroll	189	79	44	200	208	34

TABLE 11

STUDENT INTEREST IN SPECIFIC HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL PROGRAMS BY SEX

	Male	Female
Data processing/ computer programming	22.6%	17.3%
Auto mechanics	22.6	1.1
Auto body repair	14.8	0.5
Diesel mechanics	4.3	0.4
Aircraft mechanics and maintenance	8.6	0.5
Electronics	20.4	1.6
Fashion merchandising	0.8	22.0
Cosmetology	0.7	18.0
Childcare aide	0.8	21.5
Social services aide	1.7	13.3
Teacher's aide	1.1	9.3
Geriatric aide	0.3	1.2
Office education	1.5	20.5
Word processing	3.7	6.1
Exploring medical/ health related careers	5.8	12.0
Nursing aide	0.4	12.3
Dental assisting	1.5	6.5
Graphic arts and printing	6.6	6.1
Technical drafting	9.7	1.2
Carpentry and construction	11.3	0.2
Cabinetmaking	2.8	0.1
Electrical	8.8	0.5
Heating & air conditioning	1.9	0.1
Plumbing	1.8	0.1
Marketing/distributive education	5.7	5.7
Farm management	5.3	1.4
Horticulture	2.2	1.2
Agribusiness supplies & services	2.6	0.5
Food Management	3.7	2.6
Welding	5.1	0.1
Machine shop & maintenance	3.3	0.1
Machine tool & die	1.1	0.1
Do not plan to enroll	32.5	31.9
Did not respond	10.9	10.8
	(n=4,157)	(n=3,937)

Career and Educational Plans After High School

* Johnson County high school students overwhelmingly plan to enroll in college full-time after they finish high school. Over 60 percent of all respondents indicated this intention.

* In fact, nearly 80 percent of the responding students had plans that included some type of education; fewer than 10 percent indicated specific plans that did not include further schooling.

* Of those with educational plans, nearly 57 percent intend to attend a four-year college or university, approximately 12 percent a two-year college, and another 8 percent a technical or specialized school.

* The percentage of students indicating plans to attend college full-time is greater among 12th graders than among 10th graders. Similarily, a greater percentage of 12th graders indicated interest in attending a four-year college or a transfer program in a two-year college. In general, the certainty of students' plans increases with grade level, and these increasingly certain plans are for further traditional college education.

* Females were somewhat more likely to plan to attend college, and males more likely to plan to work full-time, enter the military or enroll in a technical or specialized school.

* Of those students who planned to begin their working lives immediately after finishing high school, few had definite job plans. About 15 percent of those who planned to begin work intended to work in a job related to their high school vocational/technical training, and 25 percent of the same group simply intended to work at "the best job I can get."

* The largest percentage of students planning to attend college full-time immediately after high school were enrolled in Shawnee Mission South, Shawnee Mission East and Blue Valley high schools, and students from these same high schools were most likely to plan to attend four-year colleges.

* Students from DeSoto, Olathe South and Shawnee Mission North high schools were more likely to plan to begin a transfer-oriented program at a community college, while students from Gardner Edgerton, Spring Hill, DeSoto, Olathe North and Shawnee Mission West high schools were more likely to plan to enter a career program at a community college.

* High schoolers from Gardner Edgerton, DeSoto, Olathe North, Spring Hill and Shawnee Mission North were considerably more likely to plan to work full-time after completing high school, and to work at a job for which high school vocational technical training prepared them.

Tables 12-15 on the following pages detail students' career and educational plans after high school.

TABLE 12

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS'
CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Future Plans	Number of Responding Students	Percent of Total Responses
Plans After Finishing High School		
Enroll in college full-time	4,998	61.5%
Work full-time	427	5.3
Attend technical, special school	430	5.3
Work & attend school part-time	971	11.9
Enter military	211	2.6
Marry and raise family	65	0.8
Take time off before deciding	345	4.2
Not sure about plans	616	7.6
Do not plan to finish high school	24	0.3
Did not respond	40	0.5
If Plans to Continue Education...		
Bachelor's degree, 4-year college	4,608	56.7%
Credit toward bachelor's, 2-year college	474	5.8
Career skill at 2-year college	554	6.8
Career skill at special school	659	8.1
Courses for general interest	250	3.1
Not sure about plans	1,188	14.6
Do not plan to continue education	285	3.5
Did not respond	109	1.3
If Plans to Begin Career After High School...		
Learn trade-apprenticeship	338	4.2%
Work in family business	229	2.8
Start own business	352	4.3
Work using high school vocational/ technical preparation	554	6.8
Work at best job I can get	918	11.3
Continue present job	279	3.4
Try several jobs--see what I like	121	1.5
Not sure about plans	835	10.3
Do not plan to begin working	3,417	42.0
Did not respond	1,084	13.3

TABLE 13

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS'
CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL
BY SEX

Future Plans	Male	Female
Plans After Finishing High School		
Enroll in college full-time	60.0%	63.7%
Work full time	6.1	4.4
Attend technical, special school	6.9	3.6
Work & attend school part-time	8.9	15.2
Enter military	4.6	0.4
Marry and raise family	0.4	1.1
Take time off before deciding	4.7	3.8
Not sure about plans	7.7	7.5
Do not plan to finish high school	0.5	0.1
Did not respond	0.5	0.4
If Plans to Continue Education...		
Bachelor's degree, 4-year college	56.6%	57.4%
Credit toward bachelor's, 2-year college	5.6	6.1
Career skill at 2-year college	6.1	7.6
Career skill at special school	8.9	7.3
Courses for general interest	2.8	3.4
Not sure about plans	14.6	14.8
Do not plan to continue education	4.4	2.5
Did not respond	0.9	0.8
If Plans to Begin Career After High School...		
Learn trade-apprenticeship	5.7%	2.5%
Work in family business	3.7	1.8
Start own business	5.9	2.7
Work using high school vocational/ technical preparation	6.0	7.7
Work at best job I can get	11.6	11.1
Continue present job	2.9	4.0
Try several jobs--see what I like	1.6	1.4
Not sure about plans	9.9	10.9
Do not plan to begin working	40.7	44.0
Did not respond	11.9	13.9

TABLE 14

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS'
CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL
BY GRADE LEVEL

Future Plans	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Plans After Finishing High School			
Enroll in college full-time	60.1%	60.4%	64.6%
Work full-time	5.2	4.9	5.6
Attend technical, special school	6.0	5.8	3.9
Work & attend school part-time	9.2	12.6	14.5
Enter military	2.7	2.5	2.6
Marry and raise family	0.9	0.8	0.7
Take time off before deciding	4.7	4.5	3.4
Not sure about plans	10.4	7.6	4.2
Do not plan to finish high school	0.3	0.3	0.2
Did not respond	0.4	0.5	0.3
If Plans to Continue Education...			
Bachelor's degree, 4-year college	53.9%	55.4%	61.6%
Credit toward bachelor's, 2-year college	3.9	5.5	8.5
Career skill at 2-year college	6.8	7.4	6.2
Career skill at special school	8.9	8.8	6.3
Courses for general interest	2.9	3.3	3.1
Not sure about plans	17.8	15.0	10.3
Do not plan to continue education	4.5	3.1	2.7
Did not respond	1.3	1.5	1.2
If Plans to Begin Career After High School...			
Learn trade-apprenticeship	4.4%	3.7%	4.3%
Work in family business	3.1	3.1	2.1
Start own business	4.5	4.2	4.3
Work using high school vocational/ technical preparation	8.0	7.4	4.8
Work at best job I can get	12.9	11.0	9.6
Continue present job	1.9	2.9	5.9
Try several jobs--see what I like	2.0	1.3	1.2
Not sure about plans	12.8	11.1	6.3
Do not plan to begin working	39.1	40.8	47.1
Did not respond	11.4	14.5	14.4

TABLE 15

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS'
CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL
BY SCHOOL AND DISTRICT

Future Plans	High School					
	SM East	SM West	SM North	SM South	SM N'West	SM Total
Plans After Finishing High School						
Enroll in college full-time	76.9%	59.6%	50.0%	79.7%	56.5%	65.0%
Work full-time	1.5	4.7	7.7	0.9	5.3	3.9
Attend technical, special school	2.7	5.6	7.7	3.1	6.5	5.1
Work & attend school part-time	8.3	14.6	14.9	6.6	14.7	11.7
Enter military	1.5	2.0	2.2	1.6	4.0	2.3
Marry and raise family	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.6
Take time off before deciding	2.8	3.8	7.0	1.7	4.3	3.8
Not sure about plans	5.2	8.1	9.2	5.4	7.4	7.1
Do not plan to finish high school	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
Did not respond	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4
If Plans to Continue Education...						
Bachelor's degree, 4-year college	71.9%	55.1%	46.7%	74.8%	55.4%	61.2%
Credit toward bachelor's, 2-year college	3.8	6.2	7.7	3.4	6.1	5.4
Career skill at 2-year college	4.1	8.4	7.5	3.5	6.3	6.0
Career skill at special school	4.6	7.2	11.5	4.4	11.0	7.6
Courses for general interest	1.5	4.3	4.0	1.9	3.2	3.0
Not sure about plans	11.1	14.9	17.2	10.0	13.5	13.2
Do not plan to continue education	1.5	2.6	4.8	1.0	3.1	2.5
Did not respond	1.3	1.3	0.7	0.9	1.4	1.1
If Plans to Begin Career After High School...						
Learn trade-apprenticeship	2.4%	4.2%	4.6%	3.9%	5.6%	4.2%
Work in family business	3.2	2.3	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.6
Start own business	4.7	4.0	3.5	4.1	5.1	4.3
Work using high school vocational/ technical preparation	4.7	7.5	10.1	3.9	6.7	6.5
Work at best job I can get	7.8	12.6	14.4	6.8	11.1	10.4
Continue present job	1.9	4.0	4.8	1.6	2.9	3.0
Try several jobs--see what I like	1.3	1.7	1.7	1.0	1.6	1.4
Not sure about plans	6.6	11.5	10.4	7.0	10.3	9.2
Do not plan to begin working	45.8	40.6	35.6	55.7	40.7	44.5
Did not respond	21.5	11.7	11.8	13.5	13.4	13.8

TABLE 15

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS'
CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL
BY SCHOOL AND DISTRICT

	High School					
Future Plans	Blue Valley	DeSoto	Spring Hill	Olathe South	Olathe North	Gardner Edgerton
Plans After Finishing High School						
Enroll in college full-time	72.5%	41.8%	41.2%	62.4%	46.7%	30.2%
Work full-time	0.9	12.3	13.2	4.1	11.9	16.7
Attend technical, special school	3.3	6.9	7.7	5.1	6.3	8.1
Work & attend school part-time	8.9	14.6	14.2	11.4	14.4	13.5
Enter military	1.3	3.4	6.7	2.3	2.8	9.5
Marry and raise family	2.0	2.3	0.5	1.0	1.4	0.5
Take time off before deciding	4.9	7.3	6.7	4.3	5.4	6.8
Not sure about plans	4.9	10.7	8.2	8.8	9.6	13.5
Do not plan to finish high school	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.5
Did not respond	0.9	0.0	1.0	0.4	0.8	0.9
If Plans to Continue Education...						
Bachelor's degree, 4-year college	64.5%	35.2%	28.4%	55.8%	39.8%	25.2%
Credit toward bachelor's 2-year college	5.3	8.8	7.1	8.0	6.7	8.3
Career skill at 2-year college	4.9	10.0	13.2	7.4	9.3	15.3
Career skill at special school	4.7	12.6	16.2	6.7	11.5	10.4
Courses for general interest	2.2	2.7	3.6	2.3	4.5	4.1
Not sure about plans	14.4	19.2	20.3	15.1	18.9	27.5
Do not plan to continue education	2.0	10.3	8.1	2.9	7.4	9.9
Did not respond	1.8	1.1	3.0	1.8	2.0	1.4
If Plans to Begin Career After High School...						
Learn trade-apprenticeship	2.0%	6.5%	5.6%	3.1%	4.5%	3.6%
Work in family business	3.1	5.0	2.0	1.8	3.7	5.0
Start own business	5.1	7.3	2.0	3.7	4.5	4.1
Work using high school vocational/ technical preparation	2.9	10.0	7.6	5.9	9.9	12.6
Work at best job I can get	9.3	14.6	19.3	9.8	15.5	18.5
Continue present job	2.7	3.8	6.1	4.5	5.0	6.8
Try several jobs--see what I like	1.8	2.7	0.5	1.0	1.9	1.8
Not sure about plans	10.4	14.2	17.3	10.0	14.1	15.8
Do not plan to begin working	48.1	23.4	24.9	46.0	32.0	23.9
Did not respond	14.4	12.6	14.7	14.3	9.0	7.7
	(n=451)	(n=261)	(n=197)	(n=511)	(n=646)	(n=222)

Preferences for Occupations and College Characteristics

* Nearly a third of all responding students indicated an interest in business occupations. Interest in engineering and technical fields, social and human services, and health services followed in order.

* A somewhat greater percentage of females than males indicate an interest in business occupations. As well, females were much more likely to indicate an interest in social and human services, health services, fine and performing arts and education. Male high school students indicated considerably more interest in engineering and technical fields, the sciences, trades and industrial fields, and the military.

* Interest in general occupational areas did not vary significantly by grade level, though interest in business occupations increased steadily among 10th, 11th and 12th graders. Students from all county high schools indicated interest in business occupations, particularly those from Shawnee Mission, Blue Valley and Olathe high schools. In general, student occupational interests were similar throughout the county, though students from the more suburban high schools tended to express greater interest in those occupations requiring education beyond high school.

* In general, students' occupational interests were compatible with their educational and work plans after finishing high school. For example, students interested in business were more likely to intend to work and attend college part-time; those interested in engineering, technical trades or industrial occupations were much more likely to plan to attend a technical or specialized school.

* High school students overwhelmingly indicated strictly academic considerations as the most important characteristic for choosing a college. More than half rated "high quality teaching" as a key college characteristic; "Wide range of academic courses" and "good academic preparation" followed as important characteristics for more than a quarter of all responding students. Practical considerations such as job/career preparation, low cost and availability of financial assistance ranked next in importance.

* There were few differences among perceptions of the importance of selected college characteristics by sex or grade level, though 12th grade females rated small size and friendly atmosphere as important more often than other groups of students.

* High school students from Blue Valley, Olathe South, and most Shawnee Mission high schools rated traditional academic characteristics as most important in selecting a college; students from the remaining county high schools rated more practical considerations such as cost and nearby location as more important.

* Again, students' ratings of important college characteristics tended to match their career and educational plans after high school.

Tables 16-21 on the following pages detail students' preferences for occupational and college characteristics.

TABLE 16

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS' PREFERENCES FOR OCCUPATIONS AND COLLEGE CHARACTERISTICS

Preferences	Number of Responding Students	Percent of Total Responses
Occupations of Interest		
Business	2,614	32.5%
Engineering/technical fields	1,755	21.8
Social or human services	1,328	16.5
Health services	1,274	15.9
Fine/performing arts	1,132	14.1
Law	1,032	12.8
Sciences	858	10.7
Communications	857	10.7
Education	586	7.3
Trades/industrial fields	480	6.0
Military	410	5.1
Agriculture	402	5.0
Don't know	581	7.2
Most Important College Characteristic		
High quality teaching	4,039	50.7%
Wide range of academic courses	2,146	26.9
Good academic reputation	2,079	26.1
Practical job/career preparation	1,796	22.5
Low cost	1,749	21.9
Availability of scholarship/ financial aid	1,602	20.1
Specialized courses or programs	1,501	18.8
Good social life	1,169	14.7
Solid preparation for graduate school	1,092	13.7
Located near home	1,084	13.6
Small size/friendly atmosphere	960	12.0
Located in desirable part of country	704	8.8
Large size, different kinds of students	649	8.1
Religious orientation	255	3.2
High social prestige	150	1.9
Do not plan to continue	526	6.6

TABLE 17

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS' PREFERENCES FOR OCCUPATIONS AND COLLEGE CHARACTERISTICS BY SEX

Preferences	Male	Female
Occupations of Interest		
Business	29.5%	35.8%
Engineering/technical fields	36.6	6.3
Social or human services	5.0	28.7
Health services	8.3	23.7
Fine/performing arts	10.8	17.5
Law	13.9	11.8
Sciences	14.0	7.2
Communications	8.6	12.9
Education	2.6	12.2
Trades/industrial fields	10.7	1.1
Military	8.9	1.1
Agriculture	7.7	2.2
Don't know	8.0	6.5
	1.4	0.9
Most Important College Characteristic		
High quality teaching	48.6%	52.9%
Wide range of academic courses	24.8	29.1
Good academic reputation	26.5	25.7
Practical job/career preparation	19.6	25.7
Low cost	24.6	19.3
Availability of scholarship/ financial aid	19.7	20.6
Specialized courses or programs	18.4	19.3
Good social life	14.6	14.7
Solid preparation for graduate school	12.9	14.4
Located near home	14.0	13.2
Small size/friendly atmosphere	9.9	14.3
Located in desirable part of country	9.9	7.8
Large size, different kinds of students	7.2	9.1
Religious orientation	2.4	4.0
High social prestige	2.2	1.5
Do not plan to continue	8.3	4.8

TABLE 18

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS' PREFERENCES FOR OCCUPATIONS AND COLLEGE CHARACTERISTICS BY GRADE

Preferences	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Occupations of Interest			
Business	29.7%	33.6%	34.9%
Engineering/technical fields	21.4	23.0	21.1
Social or human services	17.2	17.3	15.0
Health services	16.4	15.5	15.7
Fine/performing arts	15.8	13.3	13.0
Law	14.3	11.5	12.7
Sciences	10.5	11.0	10.6
Communications	10.0	10.2	11.9
Education	5.8	6.7	9.8
Trades/industrial fields	4.6	6.8	6.6
Military	5.6	5.4	4.1
Agriculture	5.4	4.5	5.1
Don't know	9.1	7.3	4.8
Most Important College Characteristic			
High quality teaching	52.3%	50.8%	48.8%
Wide range of academic courses	27.8	27.3	25.6
Good academic reputation	24.2	25.7	28.7
Practical job/career preparation	21.3	23.7	22.7
Low cost	20.6	23.4	22.1
Availability of scholarship/ financial aid	21.4	20.1	18.7
Specialized courses or programs	19.6	18.3	18.6
Good social life	13.5	14.2	16.5
Solid preparation for graduate school	12.4	13.5	15.5
Located near home	13.6	13.1	14.0
Small size/friendly atmosphere	9.7	12.4	14.5
Located in desirable part of country	9.9	9.8	6.5
Large size, different kinds of students	7.9	7.8	8.7
Religious orientation	2.3	3.6	3.9
High social prestige	2.3	1.6	1.6
Do not plan to continue	7.0	6.4	6.2

TABLE 19

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS'
PREFERENCES FOR OCCUPATIONS AND COLLEGE CHARACTERISTICS
BY HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDING

Preferences	High School					
	SM East	SM West	SM North	SM South	SM N'West	SM Total
Occupations of Interest						
Business	35.1%	29.3%	30.8%	37.6%	33.5%	33.3%
Engineering/technical fields	17.3	24.0	23.2	21.3	24.9	22.5
Social or human services	16.0	19.5	16.4	15.3	18.0	17.1
Health services	18.4	19.3	16.6	13.9	14.1	16.3
Fine/performing arts	13.2	15.9	16.9	13.3	13.7	14.6
Law	14.1	10.3	12.5	18.2	11.5	13.5
Sciences	13.7	9.3	8.7	12.5	10.7	10.9
Communications	11.4	10.9	9.9	11.3	12.8	11.3
Education	7.0	7.6	7.8	7.5	7.6	7.5
Trades/industrial fields	4.1	7.4	7.2	2.3	6.6	5.4
Military	3.5	4.1	4.6	3.6	5.8	4.3
Agriculture	3.0	4.7	5.6	2.6	5.5	4.2
Don't know	6.2	5.5	6.8	6.7	6.3	6.3
Most Important College Characteristic						
High quality teaching	54.8%	50.4%	47.1%	55.3%	51.1%	51.9%
Wide range of academic courses	27.2	28.4	25.3	27.3	28.2	27.4
Good academic reputation	32.7	23.4	22.3	34.0	26.5	27.9
Practical job/career preparation	20.2	26.1	21.2	21.0	25.0	22.9
Low cost	16.4	24.3	23.8	18.8	19.2	20.7
Availability of scholarship/ financial aid	14.5	23.3	26.3	17.1	19.5	20.3
Specialized courses or programs	16.0	21.7	18.2	18.0	20.6	19.2
Good social life	18.3	15.8	13.9	17.3	13.1	15.7
Solid preparation for graduate school	20.4	12.0	11.9	16.9	15.4	15.1
Located near home	8.9	15.5	14.0	9.3	13.9	12.4
Small size/friendly atmosphere	13.4	10.0	12.7	11.0	11.4	11.4
Located in desirable part of country	18.2	6.7	6.2	12.0	7.2	9.7
Large size, different kinds of students	8.6	8.6	8.8	10.2	6.8	8.7
Religious orientation	2.1	3.0	2.7	3.2	3.7	3.0
High social prestige	2.1	1.7	1.9	2.6	1.8	2.0
Do not plan to continue	3.4	4.7	9.0	2.5	7.1	5.1

TABLE 19

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS'
PREFERENCES FOR OCCUPATIONS AND COLLEGE CHARACTERISTICS
BY HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDING

Preferences	High School					
	Blue Valley	DeSoto	Spring Hill	Olathe South	Olathe North	Gardner Edgerton
Occupations of Interest						
Business	31.7%	23.7%	23.7%	35.3%	33.1%	22.7%
Engineering/technical fields	23.4	17.9	17.5	18.9	20.0	23.6
Social or human services	14.1	17.1	13.4	17.4	14.9	11.6
Health services	16.8	16.7	22.2	14.4	12.5	9.7
Fine/performing arts	14.7	16.7	15.5	10.1	11.7	11.1
Law	12.0	12.1	6.7	12.0	12.4	7.4
Sciences	11.1	9.7	8.8	11.6	10.3	5.6
Communications	11.6	3.9	12.4	9.3	8.4	8.8
Education	5.0	7.0	2.1	10.5	6.7	5.1
Trades/industrial fields	3.2	8.6	8.2	6.3	8.1	13.9
Military	4.3	8.6	11.3	3.9	6.8	16.2
Agriculture	4.5	9.3	11.9	5.1	6.2	11.6
Don't know	10.2	7.8	6.2	7.1	11.4	14.8
Most Important College Characteristic						
High quality teaching	56.2%	44.1%	37.4%	53.7%	46.4%	32.9%
Wide range of academic courses	32.6	20.7	25.8	26.9	22.3	25.4
Good academic reputation	28.7	18.8	22.6	22.6	18.5	15.5
Practical job/career preparation	18.1	19.1	24.2	23.0	21.7	24.9
Low cost	20.0	22.7	23.7	26.5	26.6	32.4
Availability of scholarship/ financial aid	16.1	18.4	20.5	27.1	17.5	17.4
Specialized courses or programs	20.0	23.8	16.3	17.8	14.4	19.7
Good social life	19.0	6.3	6.3	11.6	12.3	10.8
Solid preparation for graduate school	13.5	9.8	7.9	11.2	9.9	4.2
Located near home	8.9	23.4	19.5	15.6	18.3	19.7
Small size/friendly atmosphere	11.9	19.1	20.0	13.0	11.0	13.1
Located in desirable part of country	11.9	4.7	4.7	5.2	6.4	4.7
Large size, different kinds of students	8.3	2.3	5.3	8.0	7.8	2.8
Religious orientation	5.7	1.2	3.7	4.4	3.7	0.9
High social prestige	2.3	1.6	1.1	1.2	1.6	0.9
Do not plan to continue	2.3	15.6	15.3	5.2	14.2	16.9

TABLE 20

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS'
PREFERENCES FOR OCCUPATIONS AND COLLEGE CHARACTERISTICS
BY EDUCATIONAL PLANS

Preferences	Educational Plans				
	4-year College	2-year College Transfer	2-year College Career	pecial School	General Interest
Occupations of Interest					
Business	34.7%	40.4%	38.9%	22.8%	35.5%
Engineering/technical fields	22.4	19.4	20.1	31.0	22.6
Social or human services	15.9	17.9	18.6	18.1	19.8
Health services	18.1	14.1	15.9	12.8	15.3
Fine/performing arts	13.8	12.0	13.0	13.5	16.5
Law	16.6	12.2	7.3	5.4	8.5
Sciences	14.7	8.1	3.8	6.2	4.0
Communications	12.1	12.6	8.6	8.7	13.7
Education	9.2	9.4	5.5	2.3	5.2
Trades/industrial fields	2.1	6.2	9.5	19.8	7.3
Military	3.3	3.2	5.5	8.2	7.7
Agriculture	3.4	6.6	6.0	7.1	6.0
Don't know	3.8	5.1	5.5	5.4	8.5
Most Important College Characteristic					
High quality teaching	61.7%	48.5%	37.8%	39.5%	35.4%
Wide range of academic courses	30.4	30.7	22.6	14.0	31.7
Good academic reputation	35.7	19.7	13.9	11.8	10.6
Practical job/career preparation	18.7	27.0	41.8	35.0	30.1
Low cost	16.3	38.0	38.5	23.1	30.9
Availability of scholarship/ financial aid	23.6	25.1	14.5	13.6	19.1
Specialized courses or programs	17.8	17.4	23.5	29.8	18.7
Good social life	16.6	8.8	9.4	9.3	17.1
Solid preparation for graduate school	19.1	10.3	6.9	9.3	3.3
Located near home	8.6	25.3	27.1	18.3	22.4
Small size/friendly atmosphere	10.7	15.7	18.3	13.6	16.7
Located in desirable part of country	10.6	4.9	5.8	4.0	6.1
Large size, different kinds of students	9.6	4.1	5.2	4.5	8.5
Religious orientation	3.7	3.6	1.4	2.8	2.0
High social prestige	2.3	1.1	0.5	1.4	1.2
Do not plan to continue	0.1	0.4	2.7	15.3	6.1

TABLE 21

JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS'
PREFERENCES FOR OCCUPATIONS AND COLLEGE CHARACTERISTICS
BY PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Preferences	Plans After High School: College Full-time	Technical/ Specialized School	Work and Attend Part-time	Work Full-time
Occupations of Interest				
Business	34.9%	21.6%	40.3%	26.6%
Engineering/technical fields	21.6	41.2	16.2	19.1
Social or human services	16.3	13.9	23.5	14.6
Health services	18.7	10.6	16.1	6.0
Fine/performing arts	13.6	11.5	15.1	14.4
Law	16.1	4.5	9.4	5.5
Sciences	14.1	4.7	5.2	1.9
Communications	11.6	7.5	12.3	5.5
Education	9.0	1.6	7.5	3.1
Trades/industrial fields	2.1	23.5	8.2	17.9
Military	2.5	4.0	2.3	5.5
Agriculture	3.5	7.8	4.8	10.8
Don't know	4.8	4.2	5.0	19.4
Most Important College Characteristic				
High quality teaching	60.5%	41.5%	42.0%	14.8%
Wide range of academic courses	31.0	13.4	24.4	10.5
Good academic reputation	34.9	11.8	14.1	4.8
Practical job/career preparation	19.2	41.0	34.6	16.8
Low cost	16.9	23.1	34.6	24.8
Availability of scholarship/ financial aid	23.4	13.0	18.6	4.8
Specialized courses or programs	17.6	33.3	22.8	9.5
Good social life	16.6	6.8	10.8	13.5
Solid preparation for graduate school	18.4	8.7	7.7	1.8
Located near home	9.4	19.6	25.0	18.3
Small size/friendly atmosphere	11.1	16.3	17.3	7.8
Located in desirable part of country	10.6	4.2	6.4	4.3
Large size, different kinds of students	9.2	4.2	6.1	6.8
Religious orientation	3.6	2.1	3.2	1.5
High social prestige	2.2	0.9	1.5	1.5
Do not plan to continue	0.1	13.2	3.1	49.4

CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL INTEREST SURVEY

Dear Student:

The following questions concern your career and educational interests and plans. Your answers will help school officials plan to meet your needs.

Your cooperation in providing thoughtful and serious answers is greatly appreciated and will help both you and the students who follow you.

Thank you.

INFORMATION QUESTIONS

1. Please write the **ZIP code of your home address** in the following blanks:

   ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

DIRECTIONS: For the remaining questions, please **circle the number** that corresponds to the most appropriate answer.

2. What high school do you attend?

   01. Shawnee Mission East
   02. Shawnee Mission West
   03. Shawnee Mission North
   04. Shawnee Mission South
   05. Shawnee Mission Northwest
   06. Blue Valley
   07. DeSoto
   08. Spring Hill
   09. Olathe South
   10. Olathe North
   11. Gardner Edgerton

3. What grade are you in?

   1. 9th grade
   2. 10th grade
   3. 11th grade
   4. 12th grade

4. What sex are you?

   1. male
   2. female

HIGH SCHOOL INTERESTS

DIRECTIONS: Please answer each of the following questions. **Circle the number** that corresponds to the most appropriate answer.

5. What is the most important benefit or reason for your attending high school?

(Choose **only one** answer, and **circle only one number** that corresponds to that answer.)

1. To prepare for college.
2. To prepare for a specific job.
3. To get a general education to prepare for life.
4. To meet new friends and participate in activities.
5. No special reason or benefits; attendance is required.

6. Would you be interested in enrolling in a vocational or technical program in high school that prepares you for a specific job immediately after graduation?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

7. Would you be interested in enrolling in a vocational or technical program even if it were held at an off-campus location?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure

8. Would you use free transportation provided by the school district to get to the vocational or technical program location?

1. Yes
2. No, would provide own transportation
3. No, would ride with friends
4. No, would not be interested in an off-campus vocational or technical program
5. Not sure

9. If you are interested in enrolling in a vocational or technical program in high school, which of the following programs would you be interested in?

(Choose **no more than 3** programs, and **circle no more than three numbers** that correspond to those programs.)

01. Agribusiness supplies and services
02. Horticulture
03. Farm management
04. Exploring medical or health-related careers
05. Nursing aide
06. Dental assisting
07. Geriatric aide
08. Social services aide
09. Childcare aide
10. Teacher's aide
11. Food management
12. Fashion merchandising
13. Marketing/distributive education
14. Office education (clerical, secretarial, etc.)
15. Word processing
16. Data processing/computer programming
17. Auto body repair
18. Auto mechanics
19. Diesel mechanics
20. Aircraft mechanics and maintenance
21. Machine shop and maintenance
22. Machine tool and die
23. Electronics
24. Carpentry and construction
25. Plumbing
26. Electrical
27. Cabinetmaking
28. Welding
29. Heating and air conditioning
30. Graphics arts and printing
31. Technical drafting
32. Cosmetology

99. I do not plan to enroll in a vocational or technical program in high school

FUTURE CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL PLANS

10. What are your plans when you finish high school?

(Choose **only one** answer, and **circle only one number** that corresponds to that answer.)

1. I plan to enroll in a college or university full-time.
2. I plan to go to work full-time.
3. I plan to attend a technical or specialized school.
4. I plan to work and attend school part-time.
5. I plan to enter the military.
6. I plan to get married and raise a family as my principal occupation.
7. I plan to take some time off before making plans.
8. I'm not sure about my plans.
9. I do not plan to finish high school.

11. If you have plans to continue your education after high school, what are your plans?

(Choose **only one** answer, and **circle only one number** that corresponds to that answer.)

1. To pursue a bachelor's degree at a 4-year college or university.
2. To earn credits toward a bachelor's degree at a 2-year college.
3. To learn a specific career skill at a 2-year college.
4. To learn a specific career skill at a special school.
5. To take some courses at a college or another school for general interest.
6. I'm not sure about my plans.
7. I do not plan to continue my education after high school.

12. If you have plans to begin a career or start working at a job that does not require education after high school, what are your plans?

(Choose **only one** answer, and **circle only one number** that corresponds to that answer.)

1. To learn a trade through an apprenticeship program.
2. To work in my family's business.
3. To start my own business.
4. To work at the job for which my high school vocational or technical program prepared me.
5. To get the best job I can get.
6. To continue working at my present job.
7. To try several different jobs to see what I like.
8. I'm not sure about my plans.
9. I do not plan to begin working immediately after high school.

continued►

13. Regardless of your current plans, in what general occupations are you most interested in working?

(Choose **no more than two answers**, and **circle no more than 2 numbers** that correspond to those answers.)

1. Agriculture
2. Health services
3. Social or human services
4. Business
5. Engineering or technical fields
6. Trades or industrial fields
7. Law
8. Education
9. Military
10. Sciences
11. Communications
12. Fine/Performing Arts
13. I don't know

14. If you plan to continue your education after high school, which characteristics of a college or university are most important to you?

(Choose **no more than 3** characteristics, and **circle no more than 3 numbers** that correspond to those characteristics.)

01. High quality teaching.
02. Low cost.
03. Wide range of academic courses.
04. Practical job training or career preparation.
05. Located near home.
06. Solid preparation for graduate or professional school.
07. Good academic reputation.
08. Small size and friendly atmosphere.
09. Large size with many different kinds of students.
10. Religious orientation.
11. Specialized courses or programs.
12. Located in a desirable part of the country.
13. High social prestige.
14. Good social life.
15. Availability of scholarship or financial aid.

99. I do not plan to continue my education at a college or university.

Thank you for your help!

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